

## **U.S.** Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of New Jersey

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May 22, 2020

Hon. John Michael Vazquez United States District Judge Frank Lautenberg Post Office & U.S. Courthouse 2 Federal Square Newark, NJ 07101

Re: United States v. Joseph Taub, Crim. No. 18-79

Dear Judge Vazquez:

We write to request that the Court schedule a telephonic status conference prior to May 29, 2020, to discuss the scheduling of the defendant's plea hearing. We further request the defendant be required to attend.

On May 5, 2020, the Government filed a letter setting forth a deadline of May 29, 2020, for the defendant to enter his plea and after which the Government would withdraw and void the plea agreement. (Doc 117.) On May 6, 2020, the defendant filed a letter objecting to the Government's deadline. (Doc 118.) The defendant's letter reiterated that the defendant would not consent to enter his plea by video, but also stated that "Mr. Taub was and is ready and willing to proceed with the plea hearing." (*Id.*)

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG CARPENITO United States Attorney

/s/ Daniel V. Shapiro

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